



## **Health economics and Bordeline personality disorders: Methods, arguments and perspectives.**

### **Abstract**

The use of health economic arguments and analyses has become an unavoidable part of modern psychiatric and psychotherapeutic clinical practice. This is especially true for the treatment of Borderline Personality disorder, as this is often an intensive and thus costly treatment. The application of health economic arguments and analyses is often embedded in a heated discussion. This course puts emphasis on the underlying causes of this discussion, while at the same time it introduces health economics in an interactive way. It will show that most of the debate is caused by different perspectives of the discussants, and not so much by the health economic methods itself. In addition, the course will highlight some typical health economic interpretations of health care that might seem odd at first glance, but do make sense after some consideration and discussion. We will illustrate that with the use of health economic research, we are able to change a defensive position in the treatment of personality disorder into an offensive one. An understanding of health economic methods and the possible differences in perspective will help participants to use health economic arguments to prioritize mental health care practice, when health care resources become scarce.